

INTERNAL USE ONLY

Handwritten:
HRC
GLC - FET
~ GK

29 October 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

[redacted]
Legislative Counsel

Handwritten: b

FROM:

[redacted]

SUBJECT:

Memorandum

[redacted]

dated 20 October 1976

1. I agree with you that [redacted] may be a bit optimistic in his assessment of the Ethics Committee's recommendation dealing with control of classified information in the House of Representatives. Although few Representatives aside from those who served on the Pike Committee would be likely to disagree with the Ethics Committee's assessment that the Pike Committee's security procedures and practices were horrendous, I do not think that a majority of House members at this time would be prone to go as far as the Ethics Committee in the recommendation cited [redacted]. In this regard, I think that the dissenting view of [redacted] although a bit strong, may reflect the views of a large number of other members.

2. At the same time, however, I do not think it would be counter-productive as part of our continuing effort to get the various House committees with which we deal and assorted other individual members to focus on the need for more substantial security procedures, to cite portions of the Ethics Committee's report. There is much good language in the report itself without having to specifically cite the final recommendation, which not only appears somewhat over zealous but at least in part unworkable.



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28 Oct 76

RLB -

What I dont think is included
here are strong minority views in re this
subject as apprinted in report. Please
get and give balance appraisal this subject.

LIM

Executive Registry

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OLC#76-3016

20 October 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: See Distribution

SUBJECT: Report of the House Ethics Committee
on the Leak of the Final Report of the
House Select Committee on Intelligence

1. Your attention is invited to the attached conclusions and recommendations extracted from the House Ethics Committee (HEC) report "Concerning Unauthorized Publication of the Report of the Select Committee on Intelligence." The underlined portions of the recommendations section on pages 43 and 44 are of particular interest as they point the way to a more responsible and secure procedure for the handling of classified information in the House of Representatives. The HEC report recommends that

"the Leadership of the House direct an appropriate Committee to promptly undertake the drafting of new House rules applicable to all Members, Committees and employees of the House, concerning obtaining, retaining and using classified information."


The HEC report also suggests that

"a small staff of professionals be recruited and trained as security officers to function under the authority of the Speaker or perhaps the Sergeant at Arms."

2. If the next Congress implements these HEC recommendations, the expenditure of \$150,000 for the investigation will have been worthwhile. Addressees may wish to consider suggesting to the appropriate

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committee chairmen and members of the House that the implementation of these HEC recommendations would significantly facilitate the flow of classified material from the Executive Branch to the appropriate committees of the House.


Assistant to the Deputy Director

Attachment: As Stated

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